

the territorial unity of the Republic of Turkey: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the Government of Turkey should immediately release all political prisoners and lift restrictions on free expression and thereby enable all Turkish citizens, including those of Kurdish origin, to enjoy the political and cultural rights of peoples in all democratic countries;

(2) the President should take every opportunity to encourage the Government of Turkey to initiate steps to end the armed confrontation in that country;

(3) the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) should declare a cease-fire and restate support for resolution of the conflict through democratic means and within the framework of the territorial unity of the Republic of Turkey;

(4) the Government of Turkey should declare a cease-fire and reaffirm a foundation upon which its Republic is based: "Peace at home. Peace in the world";

(5) upon cessation of hostilities, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other appropriate humanitarian and monitoring organizations should be given access to southeastern Turkey;

(6) the Government of Turkey should take steps to further reduce the potential for future confrontation, including—

(A) allowing all political parties committed to nonviolence to participate in Turkish political life;

(B) repealing the state of emergency in southeastern Turkey;

(C) dismantling the paramilitary "village guard" system;

(D) lifting all constraints on the dissemination in the Kurdish language of television and radio broadcasts, print, music, and other media;

(E) allowing schools to offer instructions in the Kurdish language; and

(F) establishing consultative mechanisms to defuse sources of conflict and propose strategies to resolve current crisis in southeastern Turkey; and

(7) the President should support providing technical assistance to carry out paragraphs (1) through (6).

SAMSHA REGULATIONS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I came to the floor last August to express my opposition to Food and Drug Administration [FDA] Commissioner David Kessler's unilateral move to regulate tobacco products.

I said that I supported the President's goal in reducing underage use of tobacco products, but the answer was not FDA regulation. Thirteen Federal agencies already regulate tobacco.

I remarked that Congress had already spoken on the matter of youth access to tobacco products by passing the Synar amendment to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA]. I encouraged the President to direct the Health and Human Services [HHS] to release the final SAMHSA regulations so the will of Congress can proceed.

Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today—6 months later—to express my support for the

final SAMHSA regulations. Now everyone can join hands and work together toward a common goal.

The actions called for in the regulations are the most immediate and effective way to make positive gains in reducing youth access to tobacco products. The regulations recognize that the individual States—all of which have laws on the books which prohibit minors from purchasing tobacco products—are better equipped to enforce these laws than the Federal Government.

Under the regulations, States are required to enforce their laws preventing the sale of tobacco to minors in a manner that is at least 80-percent effective. States will have to conduct annual random, unannounced inspections to ensure compliance with the law. In addition, each State will be required to submit an annual report detailing its activities and its overall success.

Mr. Speaker, the issue here is not whether juvenile use of tobacco products should be curbed. Everyone agrees it must be. Rather, the question is how best can we make immediate and effective advances. Commissioner Kessler's unilateral attempt to create jurisdiction is not the answer. Over 3 years ago, Congress overwhelmingly asserted its commitment to prohibiting minors from purchasing tobacco products. Finally, Mr. Speaker, we now have the ability to start down the road of progress.

INDIA REPUBLIC DAY: A CELEBRATION OF 46 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, January 26, is a date of enormous significance for all the people of India, and for the many sons and daughters of India living in the United States and around the world. January 26 marks the celebration of Republic Day, a national holiday that holds the same significance for Indians as the Fourth of July does for Americans.

On January 26, 1950, India became a Republic. The country adopted a Constitution which enshrined the principles of democracy and secularism. At that time, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the nation's first President. Since then, despite the challenges of sustaining economic development while reconciling her many ethnic, religious and linguistic communities, India has stuck to the path of free and fair elections, a multi-party political system and the orderly transfer of power from one government to its successor.

Since many Americans may be unfamiliar with the anniversary that the people of India celebrate tomorrow, I would like to draw particular attention to the similarities and shared values of the United States and India. The framers of the Indian Constitution drew inspiration from our own Constitution and its Bill of Rights. Both of our countries are former British colonies that gained their freedom after a long and difficult struggle. English continues to be an important language of commerce in India, while the principles of common law continues to shape the nation's judicial system. Many Americans almost instinctively saw in Ma-

hatma Gandhi a reflection of values that our country holds dear. During this month when we celebrate the birthday of one of America's greatest heroes, Martin Luther King, Jr., we should remember that Dr. King derived many of his ideas of non-violent resistance to injustice from the teachings, actions and self-sacrifice of Gandhi.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to report that United States-India relations are continuing their trend toward greater cooperation and partnership on many key issues. Last year was marked by an unprecedented flurry of visits—in both directions—from leading government and private sector officials from both countries. Three United States Cabinet Secretaries travelled to India during 1995, and major contracts valued in the billions of dollars were concluded. In my capacity as cochairman of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, I am proud that our bipartisan Congressional Member Organization has been able to host forums for Members of Congress to hear from these distinguished Indian leaders, including Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, opposition leaders and the heads of major firms and trade organizations. In 1996, I hope we in Congress will continue to make it a high priority to continue this momentum and move it forward. The steady improvement in United States-India relations will benefit the people of both of our countries.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I want to point out that Republic Day will be celebrated by the one million Asian Indians here in America, a community of hard-working, family-oriented people who have contributed greatly to their new country while maintaining pride and devotion to their motherland.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Republic Day 1996 marks one of the final events to be presided over by Ambassador Siddhartha Shankar Ray. After more than 3 years of representing his country in Washington, Ambassador Ray is returning home and returning to the political fray in this year's parliamentary elections. I would like to take this opportunity to wish a fond farewell to the Ambassador and his wife Maya Ray, herself a barrister, former Member of Parliament and an effective representative for her country before the international community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me, an elected Representative of the oldest continuous democratic republic on Earth, to pay tribute to the world's most populous democracy on the occasion of their great national day.

IN MEMORY OF AMBER HAGERMAN

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few moments to apprise my colleagues of a tragic incident which recently occurred in my congressional district.

Earlier this month, Amber Hagerman, a 9-year-old girl from Arlington, was kidnapped and murdered. The autopsy has not yet been completed; however, it is likely that Amber was sexually assaulted.

The crime has sparked national outrage over the brutality of the incident. Amber was

kidnaped from the parking lot of a vacant shopping center on January 13. For a week, volunteers and police searched the city of Arlington hoping that they would find her safe and sound. Her body was found almost a week later on January 17. The authorities are still searching for her killer.

Arlington citizens, deeply disturbed by the incident, have held numerous community meetings and are urging passage of more State and Federal laws to strengthen prosecution of sex offenders.

I share the concerns of my constituents and agree that there is an urgent need to toughen the sentences for sex offenders.

I urge my colleagues to support legislation addressing these types of crimes. It is high time that we lock up these repeat sex offenders and throw away the key. Stricter sentencing laws can prevent sex offenses and protect our citizens from such heinous crimes.

J. KENNETH BLACKWELL AND
STEVE ENTIN, TWO TREASURES
IN MY DISTRICT

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the Cincinnati district that I am privileged to represent has an abundance of treasures. One of them is a good friend and former colleague of mine from our days together on the Cincinnati City Council, J. Kenneth Blackwell. After leaving the council, Ken went on to serve as Assistant Secretary for the Department of Housing and Urban Development and then as ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Conference in Geneva during the Bush administration. He recently became the first African-American ever elected statewide in Ohio and now serves as State treasurer. He also serves as a member of the National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform, which last week issued its much heralded recommendations for a new Federal tax system. Goodness knows, the present Internal Revenue System is an atrocious mess in need of complete overhaul.

I was privileged this last Martin Luther King Day to attend the Cincinnati ceremony in which Ken and his distinguished wife Rosa were presented the prestigious Dreamkeepers Award. Today, I would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a November 15 speech delivered by my friend, Ken Blackwell, at Ashland University's Ashbrook Center for Public Affairs (established in honor of the late, legendary Ohio Congressman John M. Ashbrook). Additionally, I'd like to include an article written by Mr. Blackwell and Steve Entin, resident scholar at the Institute for Research on the Economics of Taxation, published in the January 18 edition of the Cincinnati Post.

The speech and article follow:

DEVOLUTION—REVOLUTION IN THE THIRD
CENTURY

(By J. Kenneth Blackwell, Treasurer of State
of Ohio)

For baseball fans in our home state, 1995 was a remarkable year. It was when Ohio became the third state to have two teams involved in major league post-season play in

the same year. It is regrettable that Georgia's only team killed the Ohio I-71 World Series by knocking out the southern end, and that it then compounded its inconsiderate behavior by depriving the northern end of the championship. Still, for Ohioans, it was the greatest baseball year ever. Until next year.

The Season was still in full swing when I began thinking about what I would say here today. Perhaps that is why a baseball story from the sixties came to mind. Even for non-fans, the name Frank Robinson should ring bells. My first paying job was selling peanuts at old Crosley Field, and one of that job's most important fringe benefits was watching Frank Robinson play ball. Frank was a more than adequate defensive player in the outfield and at first base, but he is remembered because he was an offensive dynamo. He hit for average and he hit with power. He made all-star teams in both the National and American Leagues, he played in World Series for teams in both leagues, and he was voted MVP in both leagues. Frank became the first African American hired to manage a major league team. He also had the dubious distinction of becoming the first one fired. He was one of two players in what some people consider the worst baseball trade ever made. Reds management called him old-at-thirty and traded him to Baltimore for Milt Pappas, which had the unfortunate side effect of laying a bad Trivial Pursuit rap on a very good pitcher.

The story, which I confess may be apocryphal, takes place after Frank became a Baltimore Oriole. It is the bottom of the ninth. The Orioles are down by one run, but the bases are loaded, and Robinson is coming to bat. The crowd is going wild. You can cut the tension with a knife.

Earl Weaver, the legendary Manager of the Orioles, looks over at Frank in the on-deck circle. He must see visions of grand slam dancing in Frank's eyes. Weaver crooks his finger to beckon Frank over. He puts his face in Frank's face. In a low, deadly tone-of-voice, Weaver says, "Listen up, Mr. All-Star! Not too hard, and not too soft! Just la-de-da!"

Frank smiles at his manager. He nods. He goes to the plate, and he lays that beautiful grooved swing of his on the first pitch. He hits a frozen-rope single to center and drives in the tying and winning runs.

"Not too hard, and not too soft! Just la-de-da . . . !

That is what we must learn to do with our government as we enter our third century of nationhood. We are a nation of home run hitters. We have a two hundred year history of swinging from our heels. More often than any nation in history, we have hit home runs, but all too often these days, we strike out.

Especially at the federal level, we have forgotten that our national game is baseball, not sumo wrestling. We have considered it acceptable to weigh five hundred pounds as long as we stayed strong. It is time now for us to get back in shape. It is time for us to learn to be disciplined at the plate. We have to make our government not too hard and not too soft, not too fat and not too lean, not too big and not too small . . . just la-de-da . . .

This will not be easy for us because imbedded in our national character, indeed, imbedded in our language, is the idea that bigger is better and smaller is worse. Expansion is good. Shrinkage is bad.

Generous people are big people. Selfish people are small.

Successful companies are green and growing. Unsuccessful companies are contracting and dying.

Not until we are talking about diets or tumors do we arrive at the idea that becoming

larger can be unhealthy and becoming smaller can be beneficial, yet that is exactly the thinking we must apply to our government if we are to return national growth to the places where we want growth.

I submit that we want growth in personal opportunity. We want growth in personal freedom. And for Americans to have more personal opportunity and more personal freedom, we have to reduce the intrusion of government into our lives at all levels, but especially at the federal level.

Today our most conspicuous area of national growth is in the national debt. Some people think that our nation has been in hock from the time we fought the Revolutionary War on borrowed money, but this is not so. It is true that we entered the nineteenth century with a debt of almost one hundred million dollars, about fifteen dollars per capita in the money of that time. This would be roughly one hundred fifty dollars in today's money. The debt went up to finance Thomas Jefferson's Louisiana Purchase, but it was then steadily worked down under James Madison, James Monroe and John Quincy Adams. In 1832, Andrew Jackson was elected President, and, believe it or not, toward the end of the first term of the first modern Democrat, thanks to rapid economic growth and prudent fiscal management, the debt was eliminated. Our political landscape today would have a very different look if Jackson's Democratic successors had been equally tightfisted.

Through our first century and a half, the national debt reached its highest levels as a consequence of wars, and it was always paid down between wars. Expressed in terms of Gross National Product, the debt was close to half of GNP coming out of the Revolutionary War. From zero in 1835 and 1836, it went over twenty-five percent of GNP in the aftermath of the Civil War, and again after World War One. It reached its all-time high, about one and a quarter times GNP, following World War Two. It came down in the sixties and seventies, but its low then was still higher than the highs following the previous century's wars. And from about a third of GNP in 1980, the debt has soared to more than half of GNP today.

What has caused this growth where we do not want growth? Well, it is not low taxes. Total tax revenues have more than doubled since 1980. Taxes now consume more than forty percent of the income of the average American family. Taxes cost that family more than food and clothing and shelter combined. Taxation at the state and local levels in most parts of the country is relatively restrained. The lion's share of the American family's confiscatory tax burden goes to the federal level.

Our federal government is a five hundred pound baseball player. There is no meal of tax dollars large enough that it will not wolf it down and growl for more. We have to get the monster on a diet before it kills itself and us with it.

The first steps in curbing the federal appetite for our money have just been taken by both houses of Congress in passing budget bills which will eliminate the deficit in seven years. Differences between the bills will soon be worked out in conference committee, but there is no assurance that they will go into effect in the form they are passed because of a threatened veto.

There is a straight forward solution to this kind of obstacle to balanced budgets and ultimate elimination of the national debt. It is the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. Forty-nine of our fifty states had balanced budgets last year. Forty-eight of those have balanced budget requirements in their constitutions. There is no doubt that some members of all of those legislatures